

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/661,716

Examiner

Charles Ehne

Applicant(s)

KLOTZ ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/12/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/30/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Bryce P. Bonzo
BRYCE P. BONZO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 1 discloses a method for analyzing a data trace representative of an FC network, comprising: determining a topology of the network; filtering the data trace for open commands that are not perceived by at least one analyzer positioned in communication with the network and eliminating devices associated with these open commands not received by an analyzer from further analysis; filtering the data trace for failed open commands and eliminating devices associated with the failed open commands from further analysis; filtering the trace data for frames to destinations that are not received by the analyzer and eliminating devices associated with these frame from further analysis; filtering frames transmitted when a loop is in closed state and eliminating devices associated with transmitting frames when a loop is closed from further analysis; and conducting error analysis of the network topology not eliminated by a filtering step.

Prior art fails to disclose the multiple steps of filtering in combination with conducting error analysis on the network topology net eliminated by the filtering steps. Grover (5,933,602) discloses a method for selecting and displaying command and response packets of interest that have been communicated over a network (Abstract, lines 1-2). Grover discloses filtering the trace data but fails to disclose eliminating the respective associated devices (column 8, lines 10-20).

Independent claim 7 discloses a method for determining valid data states in a FC SAN during a network analysis process, comprising: filtering conversations from a data trace when the context of the conversations cannot be determined; determining what devices are validly communicating on the FC loop from the data trace; filtering conversations from the data trace that cannot be monitored or determined from a current analyzer positioning; tabulating validly communicating devices; and analyzing the data trace using the tabulated validly communicating devices to determine FC network errors.

Prior art fails to disclose the multiple steps of filtering in combination with conducting error analysis on the network topology not eliminated by the filtering steps. Grover (5,933,602) discloses a method for selecting and displaying command and response packets of interest that have been communicated over a network (Abstract, lines 1-2). Grover discloses filtering the trace data but fails to disclose filtering conversations from the data trace that cannot be monitored or determined from a current analyzer positioning; tabulating validly communicating devices; and analyzing the data trace using the tabulated validly communicating devices to determine FC network errors.

Independent claim 15 discloses a method for filtering FC conversations in a network to determine valid topology and errors for the FC network, comprising: acquiring a data trace from the FC network via at least one analyzer positioned in communication with the FC network, the data trace representing bidirectional data transmissions in the FC network; filtering conversations from the data trace that are

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related to unverifiable network devices; generating a network topology from the data trace containing the filtered conversations; and analyzing the FC network for errors using the data trace containing the filtered conversations.

Prior art fails to disclose the multiple steps of filtering in combination with conducting error analysis on the network topology not eliminated by the filtering steps. Grover (5,933,602) discloses a method for selecting and displaying command and response packets of interest that have been communicated over a network (Abstract, lines 1-2). Grover discloses filtering the trace data but fails to disclose filtering conversations from the data trace that are related to unverifiable network devices; generating a network topology from the data trace containing the filtered conversations; and analyzing the FC network for errors using the data trace containing the filtered conversations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Ehne whose telephone number is (571)-272-2471. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (571)-272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.